



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(Attorney Docket No. VTIP 00.140)

In re Application of:	)	Appln. No.: 10/029,840
	)	Confirmation No.: 5348
XIANG-JIN MENG <i>et al.</i>	)	Group Art Unit: 1648
	)	Examiner: D. Wortman
Filed: December 31, 2001	)	Paper No.: 17

For: AVIAN HEPATITIS E VIRUS, VACCINES AND METHODS OF  
PROTECTING AGAINST AVIAN HEPATITIS-SPLENOMEGALY  
SYNDROME AND MAMMALIAN HEPATITIS E

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
OF INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office certain foreign patents and publications identified on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (incorporated herein by reference thereto) which have been recently cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. With the exception of the Payne *et al.* article in Veterinary Microbiology that has already been made of record, a copy of each listed document and the International Search Report are supplied herewith for the convenience of the Examiner. Duplicate copies of Form PTO-1449 are also enclosed.

Applicants ask that the Examiner consider the listed items, initial Form PTO-1449, return a copy thereof to Applicants with the next communication and enter the original copy of the form into the application file.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) and (h), it is noted for the record that the filing of this information disclosure statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or as an admission that the listed items are, or are considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 or material to the examination of this application. Furthermore, this filing is not to be construed as a representation that additional information material to the patentability or the examination of this application does not exist; the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or the information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

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Favorable treatment is respectfully urged.

Respectfully submitted,  
VIRGINIA TECH INTELLECTUAL  
PROPERTIES, INC.

Date: February 18, 2003

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on February 18, 2003 with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Anne M. Rosenblum  
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